REMARKS

Claim Amendments

Claims 194, 198-206, 209-218, 223-224, 230 and 233 are amended herein. Claims 207-208 have been canceled. New claims 236-264 have been added. Accordingly, upon entry of the amendments, claims 194-206 and 209-264 are pending.

Support for these amendments can be found throughout the application as filed. No new matter has been added.

Filing Receipt

Applicants have amended the specification to show the relatedness between applications. Applicants will resubmit a request for a corrected filing receipt reflecting this amendment.

Oath

This application has been accorded Rule 1.47(a) status. *See* Decision According Status under 37 CFR 1.47(a), filed with Applicants Submission of Missing Parts in Application on March 9, 2004. As such, Applicants have shown that the non-signing inventor has refused to join in the filing of the above-identified application.

Specification

The specification has been amended to update the status of applications and include a reference to Figures 16A and B. Applicants respectfully note a reference for Figure 3C is found in the last sentence of paragraph **[0040]**. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

Claim Objections

Claims 199-204 and 210-215 are objected to over the term "exhibits" and "possesses." Applicants submit these terms are synonymous. Applicants also note this language appears in several, related applications and has not been objected. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that no amendment is necessary.

Claims 210-215 are objected to over "Sequence." Applicants have been amended these claims to recite "sequence" as suggested in the Office Action.

In light of these amendments and remarks, Applicants request withdrawal of the claim objections.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Claims 194-235 stand rejected on written description and scope of enablement grounds because they encompass methods of producing all sweet taste receptors, including those which hybridize to SEQ ID NOS: 9 or 10, or fragments thereof.

As amended, the claims recite methods of producing a heteromeric taste receptor that responds to sweet taste stimuli comprising expressing at least one T1R2 nucleic acid sequence and at least one T1R3 nucleic acid sequence in a recombinant host cell under conditions which result in a heteromeric taste receptor comprising at least one T1R2 and T1R3 polypeptide that responds to sweet taste stimuli, wherein said T1R2 and T1R3 are encoded by specific SEQ ID NOs, encoded by nucleic acid sequences that hybridize to specific SEQ ID NOs under stringent hybridization conditions, or are amino acid sequences having at least 90% sequence identity to specific SEQ ID NOs. The claims have also been amended to delete the recitation of fragments. Applicants note the recitation of "at least 90% sequence identity" and the hybridization conditions set forth in the instant claims is consistent with the claim language of U.S. Patent No. 6,955,887. In light of these amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the written description and enablement rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 194-235 are rejected over the phrase "and/or." Applicants have amended the claims to delete "and/or."

Claims 198-205 and 208-217 are rejected over the phrase "contained in." Applicants have amended the claims to change "contained in" to "of."

Claims 207, 208 and 218 are rejected over the phrase "in association with." Applicants have canceled claims 207-208 and amended claim 218 to delete "in association with."

Claims 206 and 218 are rejected over the phrase "stringency conditions." Applicants have amended the claims to recite exact hybridization conditions as suggested in the Office Action.

Claim 218 is rejected over "responds." Applicants have amended claim 218 to delete the recitation of "or a fragment thereof...that responds to taste stimuli." Applicants note, however, the recitation of "responds to taste stimuli" is consistent with the claim language in U.S. Patent No. 6,955,887.

Claims 223 and 224 are rejected because the prokaryotic cells from which the claim depends (claim 221) are not mammalian cells. Applicants have amended claims 223 and 224 to depend from claim 222.

Claim 230 is rejected because it is unclear how the sequences are "attached." Applicants have amended this claim to recite that either of said T1R2 and T1R3 nucleic acid sequences are contained in a nucleic acid construct that comprises a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a detectable label.

In light of these amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 112, 2nd paragraph rejections.

Provisional Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The Office Action provisionally rejected claims 194-235 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 194-229 of co-pending Application No. 10/725,037, claims 194-234 of co-pending Application No. 10/725,103, and claims 194-256 of co-pending Application No. 10/725,475.

Applicants respectfully request this rejection be held in abeyance until this application is condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that these amendments and remarks should place this application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions relating to this response or the application in general he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

It is believed that no fees are required for entry of this response, but should any fees be necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to the undersigned's **Deposit Account No. 50-0206**.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 19, 2006   By: _____

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